TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 20, 2002 LB 1309

institutions are doing their best to recruit students, and so there is competition with our private colleges, but it would be quite expensive if we put those 21,000 students in our public school system, higher education, universities, state colleges, community colleges. It'd be very expensive for the state. So I think if we can support our private colleges a little bit, it's And it's not direct support, it's support to the appropriate. students that are going there, and only to students from Nebraska that are going there. What would our state be like if we didn't have those 10,000 or so students that don't live in Nebraska that come to Nebraska to private colleges? Would they come to Nebraska to go to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, or at Kearney, or UNO? I don't think so. They came to Nebraska because they had a specific private college in mind. And so I think what we're doing to support our private colleges, or at least the students that are going there, is insignificant, but I think we should continue to do that. a product of a small private college. I went to Nebraska Don't hold that against them, but I enjoyed my experience there and I'd like to see a lot of Nebraska students continue to go to school there. My first semester tuition at Nebraska Wesleyan was \$250, I am sorry, \$225, and my brother was at the university at that time. It was \$175 for him. cost \$50 a semester more to go to Wesleyan than it did to the university. I guess times have changed. And so, with that, I will give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what Senator Schrock said I am going to take to heart. I will not hold it against the little schools just because he is a product of them. They do the best they can, but I will tell you what. Senator Schrock is not necessarily an argument against maintaining little schools, and I'm for little schools, medium size schools, big schools. If they are public schools, the public should pay. If they're private schools, those who established the schools should pay. The state did not order the Catholics, did not order the Baptists, did not order the Methodists, or any of these other religions to establish a separate school system, but what some of my colleagues may not